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of South Carolina, but also as one of the essential books for the general student of colonial institutions.

EVARTS B. GREENE.

In a perfunctory introduction to *The Memoirs of Rufus Putnam and Certain Official Papers and Correspondence* (published by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Ohio; compiled by Miss Rowena Buell, and well printed by Houghton, Mifflin, and Company, 1903, pp. xxxvi, 460), Senator Hoar confidently assigns Putnam to that galaxy composed of the "few men to whom it has been given to stand at the parting of the ways, or the parting of the waters, to turn the currents of human history and to determine the destiny of States and Nations". Students of the history of the old Northwest will regard the foregoing statement rather as a thesis than as a conclusion. Senator Hoar's "impregnable foundations" for so enrolling Putnam are, first, that before, during, and after the passage of the Ordinance of 1787 Putnam was responsible for the exclusion of slavery from the Northwest Territory; second, that at the beginning of the Revolution he compelled the evacuation of Boston by the British; third, that he saved Washington's army in New York "at the single most trying and dangerous period of the Revolutionary War".

Without committing oneself as to the historic accuracy of the estimate which Senator Hoar first placed on Putnam's work and worth at the Marietta centennial celebration in 1888, and which he now reiterates, it is quite within bounds to say that the memoir and papers given to the world through the Colonial Dames of Ohio are invaluable additions to the fast-gathering materials for an adequate history of the territory northwest of the Ohio. Moreover, the memoirs help materially to dispel the mystery surrounding the seemingly incredible achievements of the men who laid the foundations of the republic. For example, Washington asserted that Putnam was the most capable engineer he discovered in either the French or the American army. Putnam himself speaks of it as one of "those singular circumstances which I call providence" that at the opportune moment when Washington had put upon him the burden of fortifying Dorchester Neck, he chanced upon a copy of Muller's *Field Engineer*, from which he learned how to construct that particular kind of defense known as a "chandelier"; but that book, valuable as it was to the amateur engineer, must have been but foolishness to a mind not trained, as Putnam's had been by hard experience and keen observation under "the fortress builder", General Amherst, during the French and Indian War. As it happened, the new knowledge was used to the incalculable advantage of the Americans. Also, we may be sure that the training Putnam gained as a surveyor in Maine and Mississippi was exactly the schooling needed to develop the founder of Ohio.

The memoirs cover the period from Putnam's boyhood in 1738 to his removal from the office of Surveyor-General in 1803, during the Jeffersonian era of removals for political reasons. The omissions are

numerous ; and one has to be thankful for what is bestowed, regretting that there is not more detail in Putnam's narration of events of highest moment. To a certain extent the letters supplement the memoirs ; and in several instances the correspondence reveals a master mind dealing with new and all-important questions. For instance, Putnam's reply to Washington's request for opinions on a peace establishment for the United States after 1783 showed a clear comprehension of the methods of protection for the western frontier ; and had his simple, logical, and adequate advice been taken by Congress, thousands of lives and millions of dollars would have been spared. In his letter to Fisher Ames, in 1790, arguing for the retention of the western territory by the United States, Putnam shows at once the courage, the calm judgment, and the prophetic insight of a statesman. The western country, he argued, might be driven by neglect into the arms of England or of Spain ; both self-interest and inclination attach the people of that territory to the United States.

A touch of humor all unconscious is given to the volume by the retention of Putnam's unique variations on the orthography of his own day, diverse as it was. Indeed there is difficulty at first in reconciling great mental capacity with a tendency to spell the same word in two or three different ways on the same page. Nor does Putnam confine his eccentricities to himself ; when he copies a letter or a document he gives to it his own peculiar impress. Thus within the space of three lines he makes Washington write "completed immediately", "agreable", and "servent" : and Secretary Knox's official pen is brought to indite such absurdities as "ben", "compell", "endevor", and "esteme". Doubtless Fisher Ames recognized the force of Putnam's argument as to the antagonism of interests in the case of the British in Canada and the Western settlers ; but he must have smiled over such a sentence as "a few by permission from Lord Dotchester, or Somebody else, may cary goods into the Indian Country. but the returns must be made to Quebeck. Surely this Government can never Suit their genus nor be for their intrest."

It would have been a decided help if the correspondence had been divided into chapters with brief introductions showing the sequence of events by adverting to leading occurrences, such as the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787, the founding of Marietta, the campaigns of Harmar, St. Clair, and Wayne, and the Jay treaty ; also the Putnam chronology might well have included the dates of his birth and death, together with somewhat more extended information of a biographical character.

CHARLES MOORE.

The American Revolution. Part II. By SIR GEORGE OTTO TREVILYAN, BART. (New York, London, and Bombay : Longmans, Green, and Company. 1903. Two vols., pp. xi, 353 ; ix, 344.)

MANY of us remember the pleasure and satisfaction with which we read years ago *The Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay* and *The Early*